



**United States
Department of the Interior
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**



**Southwest Arizona National Wildlife Refuge Complex
9300 East 28th Street
Yuma, Arizona 85365
(928) 783-7861, (928) 783-8611 fax**

April 29, 2010

Director Larry Voyles
Arizona Game and Fish Department
5000 W. Carefree Highway
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000

Dear Mr. Voyles:

I am writing to express my gratitude for the assistance that the Arizona Game and Fish Department provided on a recent habitat project to benefit desert bighorn sheep on Kofa National Wildlife Refuge. On April 7-12, High Tank Number 3 (also known as White Dike Tank) was cleaned out and resealed to improve water holding capacity. Please pass on our gratitude in particular to Tom Christensen and Dan Poulter, of the Development Branch, and Charlie Hansen from Region IV. These three gentlemen stayed for the duration of the project and lent their practical experience, enthusiasm, and leadership skills in many ways. Please also thank Ed Jahrke of the Development Branch and John Hervert from Region IV for their "behind the scenes" planning and funding assistance.

The Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society was also instrumental in completing the job; they brought 57 volunteers and provided the traditional steak dinner Saturday night and biscuits and gravy breakfast Sunday morning. Papillon Grand Canyon Helicopters sent a skilled pilot, Darren Beaufaux, and fuel truck driver Laura who played a critical role in the project as well.

As always, I appreciate the continued cooperation between our agencies, and am pleased to be able to celebrate the completion of a project on-the-ground. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Mitch Ellis
Complex Manager

CC: Mr. Pat Barber, Regional Supervisor, Yuma

